

## Miscellaneous

### HOME TALENT FOR EVANGELISM.

By Roy B. Guild.

Gipsy Smith was conducting an evangelistic campaign in Chicago. Each noon the great Northern Theatre was filled within seven minutes of the time the doors were opened.

Each day the gipsy evangelist was preceded by a Chicago preacher who took half the time. Men who had not been called evangelistic gave wonderful messages. Near the close of the week after we had listened to the most stirring appeal we had yet heard Gipsy Smith came forward holding a bundle of letters in his hands.

"These," he said, "are protests from some of you who think I ought to occupy all of this brief noon hour. Do you know why I have insisted on your own preachers dividing the time? First, because the Lord did not send me over here to commit suicide. Second, and chiefly, I wanted you to know that if you will support your own preachers as loyally and as enthusiastically as you do me, and as you have just supported this man, you will not have to sent to England for a gipsy to preach the gospel."

Some of our cities are taking this truth to heart. Three years ago Indianapolis failed to secure a professional evangelist. The officers of the evangelistic committee of the Church Federation of Indianapolis decided to go ahead any way and have a simultaneous evangelistic campaign. The pastors and laymen responded to the proposal. The churches were led to expect results. At the end of the Easter season three thousand had been added to the churches. More careful plans covering the whole winter's work were made. Seven thousand were received into the churches. All denominations worked along normal lines, but worked. Last winter over eight thousand were received. Counting the summer seasons with the winter nearly twenty thousand have been brought into the membership of the Indianapolis churches.

Ministers have come to expect results. The church members have manifested faith in their own pastor and in themselves.

The Federated Churches of Cleveland report remarkable success in the use of home talent for evangelistic campaigns. The plan was as follows:

#### Co-operation in Evangelism.

A goal of 10,000 new church members by Easter Sunday, April 23, 1916, was adopted by 200 pastors at their all-day conference on Monday, September 27, 1915. This program of organized personal evangelism was furthered by observing October as a general rally and go-to-church month, each Sunday having a name and each week having some special significance. Publicity was given this campaign by advertisements in the four daily newspapers of the city and by news items upon special features emphasized during the month. The weekly church calendars were used to set forth the nature of the Christian life and claims of the Church.

Much was made of that part of the program which requested the pastors to give at least once every Sunday a public invitation to begin the Christian life. Churches appointed committees of laymen to assist in parish invitation. The Laymen's Missionary Convention, December 5 to 8, which enrolled 2,200 delegates, was made a part of this evangelistic campaign, and was followed by a concerted effort to develop a strong evangelistic Sunday evening service, culminating in two

weeks of meetings in individual or groups of churches before Easter Sunday. Statements were secured from thirty leading churches in the country that have large Sunday evening services, showing the methods employed to build up this service. Never have the churches of Cleveland co-operated with so much real enthusiasm in a uniform program of evangelism. In their addresses on Life Work, Sunday, February 13, pastors requested their young people to dedicate their lives to some special form of Christian service, including the Christian ministry and social service activities. The noon-day meetings in the Euclid Avenue opera house during Holy Week were attended by more than 1,000 every day, and gave much inspiration to the closing days of the year's campaign of evangelism. Returns from the churches to date indicate that the goal of 10,000 new members has been reached.

In Minneapolis the churches had been linked in a strong fellowship in a great fight for a dry city. While the battle went against them because of the importing of hundreds of voters yet they manifested a strength that has terrorized the liquor interests. Following this fight they co-operated in a simultaneous campaign with splendid results. Richmond, Virginia, had similar success.

One of the secrets of success for great evangelists is that the whole city is thinking about the same thing at the same time though their thoughts may be very different. A unified program can bring these results. Those wishing printed matter telling how the plan has worked can secure the same by writing to Rev. Roy B. Guild, executive secretary of the Commission on Federated Movements, United Charities Building, New York.

Now is the time to plan for the work. Rally Sunday should mark the opening of a city-wide campaign that will increase in earnestness and intensity until Easter.

### JAPS GIVE MISSIONARY HEARTY SEND-OFF.

Rev. C. M. Warren, of Miyazaki, Japan, a Congregational missionary, sends a graphic account of the spontaneous and enthusiastic tributes paid his colleague, Rev. Cyrus A. Clark, at a public meeting tendered him just as he was leaving on furlough. Mr. Warren says:

"The meeting was held in the Prefectural Assembly Hall. The master of ceremonies was the head of the biggest bank in town. The first speaker was the governor of the prefecture. Other speakers included the mayor, the head man of the county, some of the governor's staff, the principal of the academy, the principal of the girls' high school, the head of the electric light company, the head of the court, representatives of the doctors, of the lawyers, etc.

"This honor was entirely spontaneous. So far as I know, this is the first time anything of the kind has been done. There have been several such meetings for missionaries who have been decorated by the emperor, or who have received official recognition from the central government in some way. But this was done from sheer admiration of Mr. Clark. The expression of Japanese obligation to America and to Americans was frank and cordial."

### BAPTISTS RAISE \$180,000 FOR MISSION BOARD DEBT.

Southern Baptists have just given a remarkable demonstration of missionary interest by raising, in record time, one hundred and eighty thousand dollars to pay off the indebtedness of the Foreign Mission Board. A little over two months ago a vigor-

ous campaign to this end was begun, and the Executive Committee of the Board has just announced its successful completion. Commenting on the remarkable achievement, the committee says:

"Surely God was in this movement. He gave the spirit of liberality to the churches and guided in unmistakable ways. Upon Him we have relied and He has been a very present help.

"Our people have been very sacrificial in this time of need. They rallied round the standard and were willing in the day of God's power. We have a great God and a great brotherhood.

"This campaign demonstrated that Foreign Missions is very close to the hearts of Southern Baptists. They love the lost world and, like their Master, are ready to suffer for it.

"It also gave us a new sense of solidarity. From Maryland to Texas, and from Missouri to Florida, our hearts beat as one. Men and women, preachers and laymen, young and old, rich and poor, combined their energies to accomplish this task.

"Pastoral leadership throughout the entire South never showed to better advantage than in these past two months. Hundreds of pastors were examples to the flock in giving and led their churches to do nobly.

"The very effective help of State secretaries and boards is gratefully acknowledged. These men of responsibility and influence took this burden as their own. Their co-operation with the Foreign Board has achieved success. We thank God upon the remembrance of their practical sympathy and invaluable help.

"The denominational papers were our main dependence for publicity. Columns of their space were gratuitously devoted to our appeals. By able and earnest editorials, they laid this cause heavily upon the consciences of the people.

"The lovable and loyal women have labored with us in the gospel. They never fail. Throughout the campaign they were our joy and inspiration."

With regard to the future administration of the Board's affairs, the committee says:

"The Board pledges itself to the strictest economy, consistent with efficiency, and purposes to keep the expenditures of this year within those of last year. In turn, the Board requests the churches to supply it with funds systematically in order that interest may be saved and debt avoided."

### PRESBYTERIANS CALLED TO SABBATH DEFENSE.

Resolutions unanimously passed by Presbytery of Washington, Sept. 11, 1916:

Resolved, That Presbyterians, grateful for the deep regard for the Sabbath that has come to them by inheritance and training from Scotland, should everywhere consider themselves under special obligation to lead in defense of the imperilled Sabbath, especially as there are very few Sabbath defense organizations other than the churches, which should everywhere unite for the safeguarding of this divine and humane institution; and,

Resolved, That as the District of Columbia is the only Christian commonwealth in the world, except California, that has no Sunday rest law; and as it has no representative in Congress; and as it is the nation's capital, and in its populations includes a nearly pro rata portion of the population of every State as resident members of the Government, we appeal to all true Americans, and especially to Christians, to see their Senators and Representatives while they are at home, individually or by deputations, to ask them to support in the next

session of Congress, the Jones Sunday rest bill, which provides for the suspension on Sunday of such unnecessary work and business in the District of Columbia as is forbidden in all the States, save California; and we submit, their delegation in Congress should give to their own citizens resident in Washington such Sunday rest as their States give when they are at home; and,

Resolved, That the stated clerk shall send a copy of these resolutions to the local press and to all Presbyteries, asking them to take similar action, and to urge also upon Senators and Congressmen in their bounds the support of other pending moral measures.

### THE MISSIONARY REVIEW UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT.

Beginning with the October number, 1916, the Missionary Review of the World is passing into the hands of the new Missionary Review Publishing Company, of which Dr. Robert E. Speer is president, and Mr. Frank L. Brown, vice-president. After September 1st, the offices will be at 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

The Review was founded in 1878 by Rev. Royal G. Wilder, who had just returned from missionary service in India. Ten years later, the magazine came under the joint editorship of Dr. Arthur T. Pierson and Dr. James M. Sherwood, by whom it was greatly enlarged and improved. Since then it has continued to make progress, keeping pace with the onward march of Christian missions.

On the death of Dr. Sherwood in 1890, Dr. Pierson became editor-in-chief, and so continued until his death twenty-one years later. Under his management, the Review became very widely known and influential and brought the world field into vision. It was especially helpful to pastors and other Christian workers, not only as a storehouse of missionary facts, but because of its leadership in high spiritual standards and its interpretation of the signs of the progress of Christianity. The Review has been famous for its breadth of vision and its powerful articles by Christian leaders who have told the story of the miracles of missions and have recorded the lives and work of notable missionaries and native Christians.

#### Missionary Progress in Thirty Years.

The missionary situation has greatly changed since the Review was first established. This is seen in the development of great missionary movements, such as those among women, students, young people and laymen. The study of the science of missions has made great strides during the last twenty years, and missionary study classes and text-books have been a new and remarkable growth during the same period. When the Review was founded, there were only small denominational missionary magazines, while to-day some of the missionary organizations publish two or three periodicals of their own, besides which there are several scientific and popular quarterlies or monthlies.

During the life of the Review, the missionary situation has also changed in the bringing of closer co-operation among the various missionary organizations. The world is now viewed as a whole with the purpose of supplying the most needy fields with the gospel. The denominations have united in annual home and foreign missionary conferences and endeavor to lessen the waste of energy due to overlapping. They study unitedly the needs of the various fields in order to accomplish the most effective work for the intellectual, social and spiritual transformation of mankind.

#### The Future of the Review.

The Review will continue as an interdenominational and international